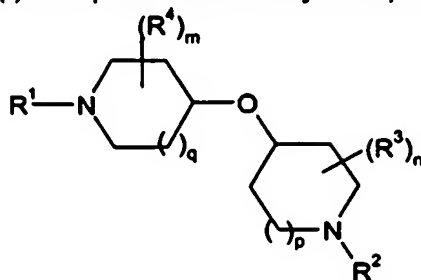


CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



(I)

wherein:

R¹ represents aryl, heteroaryl, -aryl-X-aryl, -aryl-X-heteroaryl, -aryl-X-heterocyclyl, -heteroaryl-X-heteroaryl, -heteroaryl-X-aryl or -heteroaryl-X-heterocyclyl;

wherein said aryl, heteroaryl and heterocyclyl groups of R¹ may be optionally substituted by one or more (e.g. 1, 2 or 3) substituents which may be the same or different, and which are selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, oxo, haloC₁₋₆ alkyl, polyhaloC₁₋₆ alkyl, haloC₁₋₆ alkoxy, polyhaloC₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, C₁₋₆ alkoxyC₁₋₆ alkyl, C₃₋₇ cycloalkylC₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkanoyl, C₁₋₆ alkoxycarbonyl, C₁₋₆ alkylsulfonyl, C₁₋₆ alkylsulfinyl, C₁₋₆ alkylsulfonyloxy, C₁₋₆ alkylsulfonylC₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkylsulfonamidoC₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkylamidoC₁₋₆ alkyl, aryl, arylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyloxy, aryloxy, arylsulfonamido, arylcarboxamido, aroyl, or a group -COR¹⁵, -COOR¹⁵, NR¹⁵R¹⁶, -CONR¹⁵R¹⁶, -NR¹⁵COR¹⁶, -NR¹⁵SO₂R¹⁶ or -SO₂NR¹⁵R¹⁶, wherein R¹⁵ and R¹⁶ independently represent hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, haloC₁₋₆ alkyl, polyhaloC₁₋₆ alkyl or C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl or together form a heterocyclic ring;

X represents a bond, O, CO, SO₂, OCH₂ or CH₂O;

R² represents C₃₋₈ alkyl, C₃₋₆ alkenyl, C₃₋₆ alkynyl, C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl, C₅₋₈ cycloalkenyl or -C₁₋₄alkyl-C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl;

wherein said C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl groups of R² may be optionally substituted by one or more (e.g. 1, 2 or 3) substituents which may be the same or different, and which are selected from the group consisting of halogen, C₁₋₄ alkyl or trifluoromethyl groups;

each R³ and R⁴ group independently represents C₁₋₄ alkyl;

m and n independently represents 0, 1 or 2;

p and q independently represents 1 or 2;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. A compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 wherein R¹ represents -aryl optionally substituted by a cyano, -CONR¹⁵R¹⁶, -COR¹⁵, halogen or -NR¹⁵COR¹⁶ group; -heteroaryl optionally substituted by a cyano, C₁₋₆ alkyl, polyhaloC₁₋₆ alkyl, -CONR¹⁵R¹⁶, -COR¹⁵ or -COOR¹⁵ group; -aryl-X-heterocyclyl;

-aryl-X-heteroaryl optionally substituted by a halogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl or aryl group; or
-heteroaryl-X-heterocyclyl.

3. A compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 2 wherein R¹ represents pyrid-3-yl
optionally substituted by a -CONR¹⁵R¹⁶ group, -phenyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-5-yl optionally
substituted by a C₁₋₆ alkyl group, phenyl optionally substituted by a -COR¹⁵ group,
pyridazin-3-yl optionally substituted by a polyhaloC₁₋₆ alkyl group, pyrazin-2-yl optionally
substituted by a polyhaloC₁₋₆ alkyl or pyrimidin-5-yl optionally substituted by a
polyhaloC₁₋₆ alkyl group.

4. A compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 3 wherein R¹ represents pyrid-3-yl
optionally substituted by a 6-CON(H)(Me) or 6-CON(H)(Et) group, 3-methyl-1,2,4-
oxadiazol-5-yl, phenyl optionally substituted by a 4-COMe group, pyridazin-3-yl
optionally substituted by a 6-CF₃ group or pyrimidin-5-yl optionally substituted by a 2-
CF₃ group.

5. A compound of formula (I) as defined in any one of claims 1 to 4 wherein m and
n represent 0.

6. A compound of formula (I) as defined in any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein p and q
represent 1.

7. A compound of formula (I) as defined in any one of claims 1 to 6 wherein R²
represents C₃₋₈ alkyl, C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl or -C₁₋₄alkyl-C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl.

8. A compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 7 wherein R² represents 1-
methylpropyl, isopropyl, cyclobutyl or -CH₂-cyclopropyl.

9. A compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 8 wherein R² represents isopropyl
or cyclobutyl.

10. A compound as defined in claim 1 which is a compound of formula E1-E120 or a
pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

11. A compound as defined in claim 1 which is
1-(1-Methylethyl)-4-({1-[4-(3-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-5-yl)phenyl]-4-
piperidinyl}oxy)piperidine;
5-{4-[(1-Cyclobutyl-4-piperidinyl)oxy]-1-piperidinyl}-N-methyl-2-pyridinecarboxamide;
1-(4-{4-[(1-Cyclobutyl-4-piperidinyl)oxy]-1-piperidinyl}phenyl)ethanone;
3-{4-[(1-Cyclobutyl-4-piperidinyl)oxy]-1-piperidinyl}-6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazine; or
5-{4-[(1-Cyclobutyl-4-piperidinyl)oxy]-1-piperidinyl}-2-(trifluoromethyl)pyrimidine or a
pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

12. A pharmaceutical composition which comprises the compound of formula (I) as defined in any one of claims 1 to 11 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

13. A compound as defined in any one of claims 1 to 11 for use in therapy.

14. A compound as defined in any one of claims 1 to 11 for use in the treatment of neurological diseases.

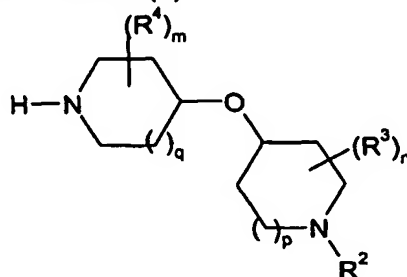
15. Use of a compound as defined in any one of claims 1 to 11 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of neurological diseases.

16. A method of treatment of neurological diseases which comprises administering to a host in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of formula (I) as defined in any one of claims 1 to 11 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

17. A pharmaceutical composition for use in the treatment of neurological diseases which comprises the compound of formula (I) as defined in any one of claims 1 to 11 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

18. A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, which process comprises:

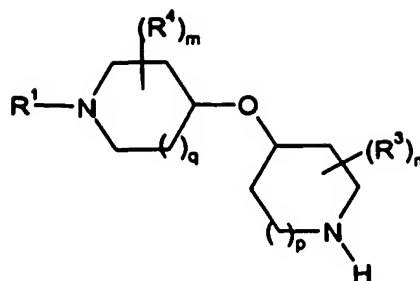
(a) reacting a compound of formula (II)



(II)

wherein R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , m , n , p and q are as defined in claim 1, with a compound of formula R^1-L^1 , wherein R^1 is as defined in claim 1 and L^1 represents a suitable leaving group, such as a halogen atom; or

(b) reacting a compound of formula (III)

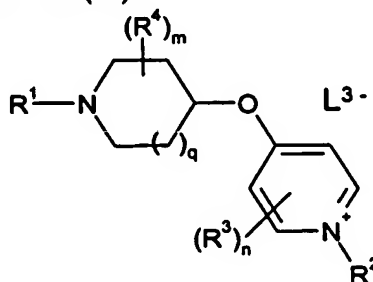


(III)

wherein R^1 , R^3 , R^4 , m , n , p and q are as defined in claim 1, with a compound of formula R^2-L^2 where R^2 is as defined in claim 1 and L^2 represents a suitable leaving group, such as a halogen atom or a sulfonate such as methanesulfonate; or

(c) reacting a compound of formula (III) as defined above with a compound of formula $H-R^2=O$ under reductive conditions, wherein R^2 is as defined in claim 1 for R^2 or a group convertible thereto; or

(d) preparing a compound of formula (I) wherein p represents 1 which comprises reduction of a compound of formula (IV)



(IV)

wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , m , n and q are as defined in claim 1 and L^{3-} represents a suitable counter ion such as a halogen atom; or

(e) deprotecting a compound of formula (I) or converting groups which are protected; and optionally thereafter

(f) interconversion to other compounds of formula (I).